

REMARKS

With this Amendment, Applicant amends Claims 1 and 3, cancels Claims 2, 5, and 6, and adds new Claims 8-21. Therefore, Claims 1, 3, 4, and 7-21 are all the claims currently pending in the present application. Claim 7 is withdrawn.

New Claims 8-21

Applicant add new Claims 8-21 in order more fully to cover various aspects of Applicant's invention as disclosed in the specification. No new matter is added.

Slater

Claims 1-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly anticipated by Slater Jr. et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,747,298 ("Slater").

Claims 1, 3, and 8-19. Regarding Claims 1, 3, and 8-19, Applicant submits that Slater fails to disclose or suggest at least a transparent substrate or an optical member mounted on a transparent substrate having any one of: (a) a quadrangular pyramidal surface (Claims 1, 3, 8, 13, 18, and 19); (b) an inverted quadrangular pyramidal surface (Claims 1, 3, 8, 13, 18, and 19); (c) a conical surface (Claims 1, 3, 9, 14, 18, and 19); (d) an inverted conical surface (Claims 1, 3, 9, 14, 18, and 19); (e) a hemispherical surface (Claims 1, 3, 10, 15, 18, and 19); (f) an inverted hemispherical surface (Claims 1, 3, 10, 15, 18, and 19); (g) a paraboloidal surface (Claims 1, 3, 11, 16, 18, and 19); (h) an inverted paraboloidal surface (Claims 1, 3, 11, 16, 18, and 19); or (i) any of an obliquely truncated surface, an inverted obliquely truncated surface, a multifaceted obliquely truncated surface, or an inverted multifaceted obliquely truncated surface having no surface parallel to a first surface of the transparent substrate (Claims 1, 3, 12, and 17-19).

As shown in Figures 3 through 7, Slater illustrates and describes a substrate having inclined sides and an upper surface parallel to the lower surface of the substrate. However, there is no teaching or suggestion in Slater of any of the above-described surfaces/shapes. Particularly, regarding the quadrangular pyramidal surface, as recited in the claims of the present invention, Slater fails to disclose such a surface/shape, but rather describes and illustrates only a shape having four inclined sides and a flat top (a truncated pyramid). Further, particularly regarding the obliquely truncated surface and the multifaceted obliquely truncated surfaces, as recited in the claims of the present invention, Applicant notes that Slater fails to disclose a substrate or an optical member having no surface parallel to the opposite side of the substrate, as recited.

Therefore, in view of at least the above, Applicant submits that Slater fails to anticipate any of Claims 1, 3, 8, and 9-19. Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of Claims 1 and 3 be withdrawn and that all of Claims 1, 3, 8, and 9-19 be allowed.

Claim 4. Applicant submits that Claim 4 is patentable at least by virtue of its dependence on Claim 3 and respectfully requests that the rejection of Claim 4 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Claims 20 and 21. Regarding Claims 20 and 21, Applicant submits that Slater fails to disclose or suggest at least a transparent substrate or an optical member mounted on a transparent substrate wherein the second surface of the substrate or of the optical member has no surface parallel to the first surface of the substrate, as recited. As clearly illustrated in Figures 3 through 7, Slater describes a substrate having a surface 23 parallel to the lower surface of the substrate.

Therefore, in view of at least the above, Applicant submits that Slater fails to anticipate Claims 20 and 21 and respectfully requests the allowance of these claims.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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